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PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS FOR 'EL CERREJON' DISCUSSED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 13 May 81 p 13-D

[Text] The coal mining project for the central region of El Cerrejon will begin with a production of 300,000 tons a year, starting in September 1982; it will continue with a production of 700,000 tons a year in 1983, until it reaches the peak production of 1,500,000 tons a year in 1984. This production level will be maintained for 7 more years.

This does not mean that this production goal will be held at the level of 1.5 million tons a year, since if the demand increases during this period, there are plans for gradual production increments in order to meet the market demand. Demand is growing for this top-quality energy resource. It can be used as a replacement fuel and has many applications in our national industry, especially in thermal power plants located on the Atlantic Coast and in the cement industry.

This project for the central region of El Cerrejon has developed in phases in a logical sequence. It began with a detailed exploration; then a mining feasibility study was done with plans for an initial working. After this came the process of prequalifying the firms with the possible technical and financial capability to handle a project of such a nature. Then specifications were drawn up to be delivered to the qualified contractors. This entire process will culminate with the selection of the most highly qualified contractor to conduct the mining work, along with the related jobs, in order to achieve the production goals listed above. Also to be considered is obtaining the best terms, not only for CARBOCOL [Colombian Coal Company, Inc] which wants a stable production that will be homogeneous in quality, but also for the contracting firm selected, so that it can meet its commitments, which in turn represent the commitments of CARBOCOL to its consumers.

CARBOCOL's Activities

The exploratory program began with CARBOCOL's technical personnel and equipment in August 1977. It has included the following activities:

a. 12,145 meters of rotary drilling with the recovery of coal cores in order to determine their quality. This was 97 percent of the total planned.

b. 115,000 meters of rotary drilling without core recovery. This was 94 percent of the total planned.

c. 16,000 meters of drilling as a continuation, without core recovery, in order to determine areas of oxidation and subcrops. This covered 100 percent of what was planned.

d. 98,000 meters of electrical recordings of rotary drillings for interpretation and correlation of coal strata. This represents 90 percent of what was planned.

e. Geological transversal sections for correlation of structures, interpretation and correlation of coal strata. This represents 95 percent of what was planned.

f. Structural maps of the coal strata, covering 75 percent of the area explored.

g. Calculation of proven reserves, at a total of 442 million tons down to a depth of 150 meters.

h. Immediate and complete chemical analyses and analyses of the mineral composition of the ash, from over 600 samples.

i. In addition, complementary studies were done of the exploration with the assistance of firms and individual consultants. These included: a geometric and stability study of inclines, done by the firm Ingenieria e Hidrosistemas; hydrogeological studies done by Ingeominas with the assistance of the consulting engineer Jaime Lopez Casas; and hydrological studies done with the assistance of the HIMAT [expansion unknown].

Mining Feasibility

The feasibility study for the central area of El Cerrejon was contracted to the Montreal Engineering Company of Canada. This study was financed through FONADE [National Development Projects

Fund], with the cooperation of the Canadian Agency for International Development, by means of a $900,000 loan with a total term of 7 years, with a grace period of 2 years before repayment begins, and bearing interest at the rate of 17 percent a year.

The principal objective of the study was to examine all aspects of the development of a large-scale coal-mining operation, in sufficient detail to enable CARBOCOL to make a decision whether or not to continue the project.

The first phase of the study, which began in May 1979, included the selection of a smaller area within the central area, capable of supporting a mining operation of 300,000 to 1,500,000 tons a year during a period of exploitation of 8 years. Some exploitation parameters were defined for this area, and terms for bid proposals were written for the mining of the quantities mentioned at a fixed price per ton.

Initial Mining Operations

The criteria used in the selection of this smaller area for the initial mining operations were essentially the following:

a. A large-scale coal-mining operation should begin as soon as possible.

b. The contractual commitments to the native community of El Cerrejon must be complied with.

c. Coal should be supplied to the thermal power plants in the Atlantic Coast area, in support of the policy to replace fuels derived from petroleum with coal.

The actual mining work will include the following:

a. Preparation of an overall mining plan for the 8 years of the mining contract.

b. Preparation of annual mining plans, based on the proposed production goals.

c. Selection of the most suitable equipment for the proposed operations.

d. Engineering design for all the jobs associated with this mining operation, such as systems to remove residues, to extract and load coal, internal roads, excavation geometry, etc.

Its Utilization

The coal that will be produced from El Cerrejon starting in 1982 will be put to use immediately in the El Cerrejon thermal power plant.

In the mid-term period it will also be used by the thermal plants of Barranquilla and Cartagena, which have units which will be converted to burn coal. The demand for coal as a replacement fuel in thermal plants may in the near future reach 2,000,000 tons a year in the following plants:

Units 1, 2, and 3 of Cartagena, each with a capacity of 66 MW; units 3 and 4 of Barranquilla, each with a capacity of 70 MW; and unit 1 of El Cerrejon, with a capacity of 170 MW. This unit was designed to use coal as its primary fuel.

The quality of the coal that will be mined will meet the requirements of the consumers, since it is top-quality coal because of its high caloric power. This parameter will be controlled during mining by means of selective mining of high-grade coal.

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CSO: 3010/1436

REFINING, EXPORTS FIGURES FOR 1980 GIVEN

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 13 May 81 p 16-D

[Text] The average national petroleum production in 1980 reached a level of 124,600 barrels per day, according to ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] statistics. In 1979 the daily average was 123,400 barrels.

In comparing the petroleum production during the two periods, we find a slight increase of 1 percent. This is highly significant when we remember that this production had been declining during the last 4 years at an average rate of 5 percent a year.

In 1980, the supply of natural gas increased to 285,900,000 cubic feet per day. In 1979, it was 258,800,000 cubic feet per day. These figures show the development of the new fields of Guajira and Sucre, which in 1979 averaged approximately 110 million cubic feet per day, which came to 42.5 percent of our national production.

Refining

The nation's refining capacity increased at the end of 1979 to 30,000 barrels per day, because of the start of operation of the new Optimation and Balance Refinery.

From the total of crude petroleum processed in all of the refineries of Colombia, in 1979 we obtained the following products:

Gasolines and solvents: 50.7 MBPD [Thousands of Barrels Per Day]; medium distillates (kerosene, ACPM [expansion unknown], turbofuels): 39.8 MBPD; aviation gasolines: 1.2 MBPD; propane gas: 4.3; aromatics and alkane-benzenes: 0.9; cyclohexane: 0.2; paraffins: 0.5; and lubricant bases: 1.4. This gives a total of 99 thousand barrels per day of white products.

Also produced were: fueloils: 43.2 MBPD; aromatic tars: 0.6 MBPD; asphalts: 1.9. This gives a total of 45.7 thousand barrels per day of black products.

Exports

In 1980 exports came to $309,158,000. This was a 50.7 percent increase over 1970, when the value of exported petroleum products was $205,219,000.

These exports can be broken down as follows (in thousands of dollars).

Products	1979	1980	Percentage of variation
Fueloils	146,229.2	238,992.7	63.3
Benzene	947.2	2,618.2	-63.8
Xylene	610.8		
Paraffin	528.6	801.6	51.6
Naphthenic acid	422.0	523.4	24.0
Sales to ships on international voyages	54,741.0	67,920.9	24.1

The volume of ECOPETROL's exports in 1979 and 1980 in barrels was as follows.

Products	1979	1980	Percentage of variation
Fueloils	8,967,075	9,488,517	5.8
Benzene	34,712	14,976	-56.8
Xylene	17,522		
Paraffin	13,365	12,066	- 9.7
Naphthenic acid	5,539	5,324	- 3.9
Sales to ships on international voyages	2,026,384	1,700,692	-16.0

Imports

The volume of ECOPETROL's imports in 1979 and 1980 in barrels was the following.

Products	1979	1980	Percentage of variation
Crudes	8,989,263	7,339,349	- 8.3
Motor gasoline	9,134,571	7,445,805	-20.0
ACPM	1,037,890	1,026,587	- 1.1
Diesel fuels		4,038,11	
Totals	19,341,729	19,849,752	2.6

The value of ECOPETROL's imports in 1979 and 1980, in thousands of dollars, was as follows.

Products	1979	1980	Percentage of variation
Crudes	209,391.6	221,419.9	5.7
Motor gasoline	312,399.5	287,512.6	-7.9
ACM	45,910.6	46,659.5	1.6
Diesel fuels		134,339.3	
Totals	567,701.7	689,931.3	21.5

Here we should add that because of the problem we have had in obtaining crude petroleum at prices suitable for refining in Colombia, last year we began to import atmospheric and vacuum-packed fuels in order to supply our catalytic cracking capability; these products were then converted to gasoline and propane gas, thus avoiding imports of gasoline and ACPM.

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HYDROELECTRIC POTENTIAL DISCUSSED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 13 May 81 pp 10-D, 11-D

[Text] After an evaluation of 351 rivers in an area of 1,139,000 square kilometers, Colombia's theoretic hydroelectric potential was found to be 118,755 MW. Based on this figure, its true potential should be 240,000 MW, using a plant factor of 0.5.

This was determined from a study authorized by the national government in 1973, in which participated the German Technical Assistance Mission and all the state organizations involved in the electricity sector.

The program included only those new projects with a potential capacity greater than 100 MW.

High potential values were found in the regions of Magdalena, Cauca, and Pacifico, which present a theoretic potential of 44,080 MW and 17,700 MW, respectively. As these regions are very close to the major centers of consumption, they would be more favorable for hydroelectric projects than other regions.

Usable Potential

The earlier IRH [Water Resources Inventory] had included 78 projects between the stages of operation and reconnaissance.

To this list were added 230 new projects, giving a total of 308 hydroelectric-type projects with a potential generating capacity throughout the nation of 93,085 MW.

As a point of comparison we can add that there are now in operation 22 hydroelectric projects with an installed capacity of 2,863 MW, that is, 2.5 percent of the total.

(1) Programa de estudios del sector electrico colombiano

(2) Proyecto	(4) Nivel de Estudios	(10) Capacidad (MW)	(11) Entidad	(15) Localización
Miel I	(5) Diseño	324	ICEL	Caldas
Miel II	(6) Factibilidad	340	ICEL (12)	Caldas
Samana Medio	Factibilidad	252	ICEL	Caldas
Butantán	Factibilidad	282	ICEL	Caldas
Patia II	Factibilidad	1100	ICEL	Nariño
Catatumbo	(7) Factibilidad en 2 etapas	950	ICEL	Norte de Santander (16)
H. Alto Suárez	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	352	ICEL	Santander
H. Cusiana	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	380	ICEL	Boyacá
H. Alto Magdalena	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	1615	ICEL	Huila
Cañafisto	Factibilidad	1100	ISA	Antioquia
Neme	Factibilidad	367	ISA	Tolima
Ituango	Factibilidad	2700	ISA	Antioquia
H. Fonce-Suárez	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	1380	ISA	Santander
H. Putumayo	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	1190	ISA	Putumayo
H. Alto Caquetá	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	2310	ISA	Caquetá
Térmica 500 MW	(3) Factibilidad	500	ISA	
Farallones	Prefactibilidad	1450	ISA	Antioquia
Alto Arauca	(8) Reconocimiento (9)	1750	ISA	Norte de Santander
Icononzo-Bosquerón	Factibilidad	230	EEEB	Tolima
H. Negro-Guayuriba	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	1510	EEEB	Cundinamarca-Meta
H. Lengupá-Upía	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	1440	EEEB	Boyacá-Meta
H. Guaviare	Reconocimiento	5365	EEEB	Meta
H. Ariari	Reconocimiento	1020	EEEB	Meta
H. Duda-Guayabero	Reconocimiento	320	EEEB	Meta
Riogrande II	Factibilidad	210	EPM	Antioquia
H. Murri-Penderisco	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	1537	EPM	Antioquia
H. Nechi	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	1000	EPM	Antioquia
H. Porce	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	750	EPM	Antioquia
H. Samaná Norte	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	500	EPM	Antioquia
Hispania	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	190	EPM	Antioquia
Calima II	Factibilidad	220	CVC	Valle
H. Micay	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	1660	CVC (13)	Valle
H. Anchicayá	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	120	CVC	Valle
H. Garrapatas	Reconocimiento	1050	CVC	Valle
Sierra Nevada	Factibilidad en 2 etapas	200	Corelca	Magdalena

(14)

Key for Table on preceding page:

1. Colombian electric power sector study program
2. Project
3. 500 MW thermal power plant
4. Phase of study
5. Design
6. Feasibility
7. Feasibility in two stages
8. Prefeasibility
9. Reconnaissance
10. Capacity (MW)
11. Agency
12. ICEL [Colombian Electric Power Institute]
13. CVC [Autonomous Regional Corporation of the Cauca Valley]
14. CORELCA [Electric Corporation of the Atlantic Coast]
15. Location
16. North of Santander

The total power to be obtained from projects in the phases of design, construction, and operation is approximately 9,537 MW, which is 10 percent of the total MW inventoried throughout the nation. It is important to point out that the 230 new projects listed by the IRH represent 63 percent of the total potential and are the equivalent of 75 percent of the total number of projects.

The hydroelectric potential existing in the regions of Magdalena-Cauca (38 percent of the total), Pacifico (13 percent), and the upper part of the Orinoco-Catatumbo (22 percent) shows that from a technical point of view, 73 percent of the usable potential is located close to the major centers of consumption.

Characteristics of the Projects

Planning for the mid-term sector covers the period until 1988. At that time the projects already recommended in the 1984-1988 Generation Expansion Plan should be in operation. By 1988, the installed capacity of Colombia's hydroelectric plants will be 9,537 MW, with 83,548 MW remaining (90 percent of the total). This does not include additions to projects in operation before 1989, for the long-term expansion plan.

We should remember that the requirements for installed capacity of the national electricity system will be approximately 14,200 MW between 1989 and 2000. This is only 17 percent of what will be available in 1989. Of this total available capacity, the 230 new projects listed by the IRH make up 70 percent of the total capacity and 84 percent of the total number of projects.

Classification according to cost of the projects shows that a large part of the future system expansions based on hydroelectric projects can be done at very attractive costs. There are 74 projects with a cost per kilowatt under US $800. These projects make up a total of 35,017 MW, corresponding to 42 percent of the total capacity inventoried.

Other characteristics of the existing projects and their share in the total capacity available are as follows:

a. Projects with some regulation make up 45 percent of the total (37,335 MW). They have a usable reservoir volume of 120,533 million cubic meters.

b. Projects of the water flow type make up 55 percent (46,213 MW) of the available capacity.

c. Projects with conduction systems make up 32 percent (26,901 MW) of the potential capacity.

d. "Base of the dam" type projects account for 26 percent of the total (21,343 MW).

e. Projects using river flow make up 42 percent (35,304 MW) of the capacity.

Multipurpose Projects

Since optimum planning is needed for the electricity sector, and since this planning must also be part of the overall national development plan, it was felt that projects with more than one purpose and additional advantages in the area of physical infrastructure should be given special treatment in project studies and in planning the system.

Projects which can be feasibly used for the purposes of irrigation, navigation, and flood control will certainly offer additional economic advantages to the regions where they are located. That is why the projects and regions most promising for multipurpose development have been determined, so that they can be given priority treatment in more advanced studies.

There are also many instances in which groups of projects may be built on the same river, either on a main channel or on its tributaries. These projects need a special planning method in order to take into account the influences the plants may have on each other during operation.

Thermal Power Plants

Even though Colombia has a sufficient hydroelectric potential, it is considered wise to include some plants to supplement the base load of the electric power system. These plants will also provide for the optimal utilization of other generating sources which are available. That is why a study has been done of the possibility of operating steam-powered plants, supplied by coal and gas; gas turbines; and nuclear plants using uranium.

It is considered technically feasible to integrate about 10,000 MW in the power system starting in 1988, which, added to the 1,800 MW which will be installed by that date, will in the long-term period provide about 12,000 MW generated thermally.

Possible sites for thermal plants have been determined, at least in principle.

a. Coal-based plants: There are seven areas which are believed to have a sufficient coal supply along with a good supply of water. These are: Caucasia, Amaga, Cali, Ubate, Cucuta, Valledupar, and Cerrejon.

b. Gas-based plants: Two potential sites have been considered for operating conventional steam plants near the natural gas fields of Galerazamba and Riohacha. There are also seven possible sites for turbogas plants. Three are located in the northern region and the other four are in Bogota, Medellin, Cali, and Bucaramanga.

c. Uranium-based plants: Puerto Wilches, Puerto Lopez, Galerazamba, and Buenaventura have been chosen as sites to be considered.

According to the studies done, the capital investment cost of the gas-based plants is 17 percent less than the cost of coal-operated plants, and the coal plants are approximately 45 percent less expensive than nuclear plants.

From an economic point of view, it does not seem necessary to include nuclear plants in the plan, especially as there are other factors which make the use of nuclear plants in our generation expansion plan somewhat uncertain.

For both technical and economic reasons, and also because of the reliability in the energy supply, there are plans to build three or six thermal plants as part of the system during the period between 1989 and 2000. This will help to stimulate the development

of the coal and gas sectors. We should remember that the annual consumption required by the coal-based thermal plants to be built in that period will come to about 5 million tons; this does not include the requirements of the thermal projects to be in operation before 1989. This figure is larger than our present coal production, estimated at 4 million tons. In order to produce this volume of coal, technological changes will have to be made, and industrially advanced methods will have to be used in the coal mines.

If there is enough natural gas available for use by the electricity sector, the construction of gas-powered thermal plants (300/600 MW) in the northern region seems to be a better solution than transporting large quantities of natural gas to plants to be built in the center of the country. The added operating cost in that alternative, because of the fuel transport costs, is a fundamental factor involved in the final decision. Nonetheless, provided that there is an adequate supply of gas to the plant, this conclusion may not be considered a factor in the decision to install gas turbines to meet the peak demand of the power system, since these systems require much smaller volumes of gas.

In making the final determination, it will be necessary to conduct additional studies, which will be clearly included within the state policy of using gas. The same criterion must be applied for the rational use of coal by this sector.

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COMMUNISTS ANNOUNCE PLANS FOR 1982 ELECTIONS

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 7 Jun 81 Sec A p 13

[Text] During the Turbay Ayala administration, the factors in the country's structural crisis have become more marked. The native and foreign financial groups hold the most defiant concentration of wealth. Squandering, immorality and corruption have become widespread among the high-ranking government officials.

The official economic policy devised by the monopolies is causing an exacerbation of poverty, inflation and unemployment, and a deterioration in real wages. The labor policy is brazenly management-oriented, justifying the layoffs and mistreatment of the workers. In this way, the developing crisis is being foisted in its entirety on the weak popular economy.

The Threat of a Military Coup

The oligarchy responds to the dissatisfaction with repression and violence. The chronic state of siege and the security statute are the tools of the social and political persecution of the people. Under their shadow, the country is becoming militarized. The jails are filled with political prisoners. Torture and the death penalty have acquired citizenship status. Thousands of farm laborers have left their plots under pressure from landholders and military chiefs. There is under way a terrorist plan of the military intelligence services which have already eliminated, within a short time, valuable leaders of the people and council members of the opposition.

Faced with the crisis, extreme right sectors and high-ranking military officials are advocating a putsch to bolster the privileges of the monopolies, promising to "reestablish discipline and social order" and to defeat the "subversion."

Turbay's disastrous foreign policy has led him to the break with Cuba, the threats to Nicaragua and the worsening of the differences with Venezuela; because he has been guided by a reactionary position in the service of the North American State Department.

Unity for Democracy

The Liberal and Conservative cliques are incapable of offering an alternative, because they are the ones responsible for this crisis. Their only program is one of bureaucratic opportunism, patronage and backing for the government's abuses.

In the election campaign, the Liberal precandidates (Barco, Espinosa, Santofimio, Lopez and Zea) are competing in their loyalty to the Turbay government, and in their perpetuation of an ill-fated policy for the people. Belisario Betancur, for his part, is repeating his old story about the "national candidacy," while preparing to join Gomez Hurtado in the campaign of the extreme right.

The solution to the people's problems and the option for a change that will thoroughly renew the country's political and social system will be possible only through the action and unity of the democratic forces.

We Communists have constantly urged dialog for the rapprochement and unity of all the democratic movements to form a genuine democratic front, which could also be joined by progressive sectors that have not taken a stand thus far toward the forthcoming electoral debate. Up until now, we have not obtained a constructive, practical response.

The traditional political schemers are going about the entire country, self-satisfied. But the democratic opposition is absent from the electoral debate, when there are positive factors for its political presence. The workers' struggle which was invigorated by the work stoppage of 13 May has become heightened; the student organization has become renewed; the Indians are struggling for their communities; the action of personages and legal experts on behalf of human rights has increased; and teachers and government workers are engaged in significant national action. If these factors are combined and projected through the election campaign, overcoming the indifference of large masses and the childishness of those who make abstention from elections a "revolutionary" stance, the democratic opposition will be able to play a leading role in the 1982 elections and after them.

A Program and a Candidate

We have proposed a program of democratic convergence, the essential points of which are:

1. Lifting of the state of siege, repeal of the security statute, general amnesty for political prisoners.

2. Full labor union liberties and rights, a 50 percent wage hike, a moving wage scale, people's control of prices and rates for public services, effective health and social assistance programs free of charge.

3. Agrarian reform measures, restoration of the Indian reservations, protection of small coffee growers.

4. Defense of the public universities, and revision of the decrees on university reform.

5. Withdrawal of the North American military missions and cessation of the armed operations against the farmers.

6. Revision of the contracts with foreign monopolies, and nationalization of oil, gas, nickel and coal.

This or another common program could be the basis for drawing up combined lists of the opposition for the public corporations and for the selection of the presidential candidate who is committed to upholding it.

For the most widespread discussion by the popular sectors that will make it possible to select the opposition's single candidate for the 1982 elections, we propose the names of several fellow countrymen who have been typified by their steadfast democratic position:

Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa, Luis Carlos Perez, Alberto Mendoza Morales, Apolinar Diaz Callejas, Eduardo Arevalo Burgos.

We are willing to discuss other names.

For the sake of popular unity, we refrain from submitting Communist precandidates.

We also propose a great national meeting of Colombians for democracy, that will give life to the great democratic front which Colombia needs, and will confirm the agreement on a single program and a single presidential candidate of the entire popular opposition.

Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party

Bogota, June 1981

2909
CSO: 3010/1444

DLN CONTINUANCE URGED, ACTION ON LLERAS RESIGNATION DELAYED

DLN Responds to Lleras Resignation

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 4 Jun 81 Sec A pp 1, 12

[Text] Yesterday, the National Liberal Directorate [DLN] made official the convocation of a board of congressmen for this month, while the presidential precandidates and many senators and representatives publicly expressed their desire that the former Presidents Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, Alberto Lleras Camargo and Victor Mosquera Chaux continue to govern the party's destinies and to carry forward the plans for the national convention on 19 September.

Drs. Virgilio Barco Vargas, Augusto Espinosa Valderrama and German Zea Hernandez, as well as the president of the Congress, Jose Ignacio Diaz Granados, voiced disagreement with the revision of the ground rules of candidacies and the change in the group's internal reorganization process which is progressing at the express mandate of last December's convention.

However, Espinosa Valderrama requested that there be added to the Liberal convention regulations that are being studied by the DLN,to be issued next week,an article stipulating the period for the prior registration of presidential precandidates, in order to preclude last minute surprises that would irremediably divide the convention members.

Let the DLN Continue

The most prominent political leaders from the departments urged the National Liberal Directorate to continue exercising its functions, despite the resignation submitted by former President Carlos Lleras Restrepo, which will be analyzed at a board of congressmen in a timely manner.

The DLN, comprised of Drs. Alberto Lleras and Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, and the presidential appointee, Victor Mosquera Chaux, sent a rather brief response yesterday to Dr. Carlos Lleras Restrepo, in which it acknowledged his valuable contribution to the Liberal reorganization process which began at his proposal; indicating to him that it is prevented by the statutes from deciding on his resignation, because only the national convention is authorized to do so. The DLN informed Lleras Restrepo of its intention to convoke the board of congressmen on a special basis to analyze the entire Liberal situation, and also to revise the groundrules, if it deems necessary; for which purpose it would necessarily have to set itself up as a convention. The drafting of the final text of the letter was assigned to Dr Alberto Lleras Camargo.

More Consultations

Yesterday, the former Presidents Alberto Lleras Camargo and Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, together with the executive secretary of the Liberal Party, Victor Mosquera Chaux, analyzed the text of the letter to Dr Carlos Lleras Restrepo, the draft of which was prepared based on the guidelines agreed upon at the meeting last Tuesday. The message was subsequently sent to its addressee, Dr Carlos Lleras Restrepo, after 1900 hours in the evening. Dr Mosquera was commissioned by the DLN to consult with Dr Lleras Restrepo concerning whether or not he would give permission for its publication.

Yesterday, former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen informed the press that Dr Victor Mosquera was making an inquiry as to how many congressmen are in the country, before proceeding to set the date for the board of senators and representatives; because it is desired that the vast majority of the Liberal members of Congress participate in the meeting. As everyone knows, many congressmen are traveling abroad.

Political Reaction

The former minister of government, German Zea Hernandez, whose name is considered a possible one for a presidential "alternate," stated yesterday on the program, "RCN [National Colombian Radio] Perspective," that he saw no reason to change the ground rules with respect to candidacies.

Zea stressed: "Those ground rules were accepted by the entire party, including former President Carlos Lleras Restrepo. He advocated them and, furthermore,as we know, Dr Lleras did not resign because he is opposed to them. So I think that they will be kept. I see no reason why this should not be the case."

Zea rejected the accusations made by former Minister Luis Carlos Galan and other members of Congress against President Turbay, blaming him for an alleged effort to blast the Liberal directors and the party's official organization.

Zea remarked: "At no time did Dr Turbay intervene in my resignation from the Ministry of Government. On the contrary, I must state emphatically that my departure originated with me; and more than with me, with a group of Liberals who thought that I should not disqualify myself in the event that I might be introduced as a coalition to the Liberal Party. I notified President Turbay of this, without expecting the slightest intention of favoritism from the government, something which I would overtly repudiate, and which the government would never, for any reason or in any contingency, ever offer."

Former Minister Zea demanded that the accusers of President Turbay prove their charges of intervention in politics, recalling that he had been accused in the same way when he was serving in the ministry, without having assumed any position that could have favored any of the political groups.

Zea and Santofimio

Dr Zea Hernandez said that he was not in a position to analyze the real strength of the Santofimio dissidents, but noted that "Senator Alberto Santofimio has been

making a series of presentations that have been reflected in paid political propaganda and in newspaper articles about the trips that he has taken." He added that the real strength will be proven in the March elections, if he does have any.

He commented: "I believe that a candidate from the convention, with the backing of the congressional group, will have much more of a chance of winning over Dr Santofimio; but the electorate will decide that."

Zea said that, like the entire party, "I have been greatly disturbed by Dr Carlos Lleras Restrepo's resignation, because it would have been preferable for him to remain in the Directorate until the selection of the candidate was made, or until the convention meeting, since he would contribute a great deal of his intelligence and experience in leading the party.

"It is a good thing that this crisis has not spread to the other former presidents, and that they are continuing to guide the party, in a strong, respectable leadership that the party must respect."

'Honorable Resignation'

Yesterday, the minister of government, Jorge Mario Eastman, remarked on Caracol that, "Dr Carlos Lleras Restrepo's resignation from the DLN is regrettable, but honorable."

Eastman expressed the view that the Liberal Party is full of vitality and, despite the fleeting disputes, will succeed in finding the path to victory in 1982. He also denied the charges of partiality made against the government and, in conclusion, voiced the opinion that the Liberal policy, unlike what has been said about it, is being made "with ideas, and not mere electioneering mechanics."

Espinosa and Lleras

In Barbosa, Santander, yesterday, the precandidate, Augusto Espinosa Valderrama, commented on Carlos Lleras' resignation from the Liberal Directorate. In a speech on the public square, Espinosa stated:

"I have deeply regretted the resignation of former President Lleras Restrepo from the DLN. Respectful as I am of human actions, I defer to his, and express the hope that the party will sustain the harsh blow with skill and fortitude. We have all become accustomed to the presence of leading personages, of the type that I term immortal, in the Directorate. It was a kind of insurance policy that had been taken out confidently against the everyday dangers that are cropping out at this crucial time for Colombian democracy. And former President Lleras Restrepo had contributed, with the brilliance and perseverance that are typical of him, to the structuring of the rules for reestablishing the Liberal Party's harmonious organization, for the purpose of clearing the way that would lead it to the indispensable unity without which it would inevitably lose power. So, it will be very difficult for us Liberals to become used to the absence of such an illustrious statesman from the tasks of leadership.

"His similarly illustrious colleagues, former Presidents Lleras Camargo and Lopez Michelsen, as well as the executive secretary, former President Mosquera Chaux,

are acting with praiseworthy discretion, and have already announced the convocation of a board of congressmen on a feasible date. But, in the meanwhile, they are continuing their endeavor, and have announced that they will soon publish supplementary regulations presented in advance. This is why I have taken the liberty of making the foregoing suggestions, by way of cordial, construction cooperation."

The president of the Congress, Jose Ignacio Diaz Granados, who will be responsible for organizing the details of the board of Liberal congressmen, offered his support in advance yesterday for the maintenance of the ground rules on candidacies and for the ratification of the mandate of the National Liberal Directorate.

However, in a letter to the DLN, Diaz Granados expressed his concern about the necessity that exists in the party "to propose, as a priority commitment, that the official candidate must accept a complete program on the country's problems, its current urgent needs and its future goals."

He added: "I am concerned about the dispersion of the views of the party's precandidates, resulting understandably from the disparity of the audience, and the personal criterion regarding the occasion of their remarks. We are patching the national policy, and letting a certain sectorized and regionalized problem appear as one of national urgency, while forgetting the collective ones. It would be fitting if the nation's major problems were the subject of a consistent program that would lend dignity and efficacy to Liberal thinking."

DLN Message to Lleras

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 4 Jun 81 Sec A p 12

[Text] Last night, former Presidents Alberto Lleras Camargo, Alfonso Lopez Michelsen and Victor Mosquera Chaux sent a letter to Dr Carlos Lleras Restrepo in which they informed him that they will refrain from considering his resignation from the DLN, because the decision is incumbent on the national convention; and also reiterated the convocation of a board of Liberal congressmen, possibly by the end of June.

The text of the message reads as follows:

"Bogota, 3 June 1981. Mr Dr Carlos Lleras Restrepo. The City. Highly esteemed friend and fellow party member:

"We refer to your letter of yesterday, which has been the object of careful consideration by us. As you yourself observe, there is nothing new to us about your decision to 'relinquish the Directorate position,' to which, as you say, you were appointed against your will. Many times, at the Diredtorate meetings, you cited the feasibility of withdrawing from the Directorate for political and even personal reasons, and particularly because of the incompatibility of your work with the study of public problems and those of the Liberal Party itself from your press box. Despite the fact that we were always in disagreement with that decision, it was perhaps the only one submitted in our very long discussions, devoted in their entirety to examining the types of organization that we had proposed and that the convention approved, and the best way of carrying out this process so critical to the

fate of the Liberal Party. Your contribution to those discussions was extremely valuable, and the regulations and declarations that were issued had been conceived or modified by you in some way. The most complete cordiality prevailed at those meetings, and you have chosen to confirm now that you do not have, and have not had, any dispute with the Directorate.

"As you also remark in the letter in question, it is to the national convention, presumably the one next September, that a formal resignation must be submitted from the positions that we hold. Therefore, you have chosen to relinquish yours, a decision that we have always regretted, and which you know very well we did not share, when you proposed it for our consideration.

"You add that the Directorate can and should continue to operate with us. We are actually of the same opinion, and we shall be ready to carry out the mandate of the convention until the foreseeable end of the functions that have been entrusted to us; in other words, until the September convention elects the party's single candidate. Then it will be incumbent on that citizen to assume the party's leadership functions in the debate, and we shall be able to conclude our tasks.

"It is not superfluous to tell you, Dr Carlos Lleras, that we shall continue to ask your opinion and seek your proposal in the undertaking that we began together, and that owes so much to you. It is our intention, as you may see in today's press, to convoke later on, when there are more members of Congress in the country and in Bogota, a board of congressmen to discuss the situations that are under consideration on the political scene. We shall notify them of your decision, and we are certain that, if you wish to add anything more to the terms of your letter to us, that body will be very pleased to hear it. We shall continue our attempt to clarify the Liberal policy which at present is disoriented, and struggling among major contradictions and many types of inconsistency regarding what the convention unanimously voted.

"We reiterate to you our very cordial salutations and expressions of our admiration and respect. National Liberal Directorate. Alberto Lleras Camargo, Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, Victor Mosquera Chaux."

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COMMUNIST PLAN FOR WIDESPREAD SUBVERSION REPORTED

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 4 Jun 81 pp 1, 3

[Report by EL SIGLO's Investigations Department: "Communist Plan for General Subversion"]

[Text] A plan prepared by the Communist Party to spread subversion widely in the country, by intensifying the armed guerrilla action in the rural areas, and mass agitation in the urban areas, the course of which would embark on a period of maximum escalation during the next 4 months, has been discovered by the military authorities.

According to a highly placed government source, all the fronts of the "Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia" (FARC), the armed branch of the political group, received orders from their general staff to immediately begin a series of attacks on selected military targets; while the party's cadres promote indoctrination programs for the "self-defense of the masses" under the direction of its Central Committee.

As military intelligence has predicted, the political group and guerrilla organization are attempting to create a chaotic atmosphere, which would produce, in the achievement of a second national civic work stoppage, an excessive degree of social conflict for submerging the country in a civil war.

The plan, which involves hostile interests comparable to those which prompted the guerrillas in El Salvador, is set forth in some documents seized on 21 April of this year in Cali, from Ulises Valencia Llanos (alias "Mario"), who is considered the political chief of the FARC's Eighth Front, which operates in Cauca. These documents cite a report sent to all staffs of the organization's fronts by its supreme commander, Pedro Antonio Marin (alias "Tirofijo"), who signed it with the pseudonym "Honorio."

In the aforementioned report, Marin calls for military action taken against the Army, through sudden concentrations of sizable forces for the attack and the defense, for the purpose of "making the enemy feel the full weight of the guerrilla movement;" and stresses the fact that the conditions for the latter are now superior to those of other times.

According to an analysis made recently by the Army Intelligence Corps, it has been concluded that, at this time, the FARC have to their advantage a considerable development of their strength, backed externally, and that, from a tactical standpoint, their capacity for concentrating on selected targets results chiefly from the mass self-defense organizations (the populace based on indoctrination), because they are forces that can be mobilized both for combat and for the tasks related to backup and service for the latter.

The analysis claims: "Thus, the assessment of their capacity based solely on the composition and strength of the armed groups leads to underestimation, and being exposed to great shocks."

It was established that the bases for the total subversion plan began to be prepared on 7 March of this year, when "Honorio" alerted all the fronts to reestablish, at all costs, the contact with the party's directors, with the organization's secretariat or military commission, and with each one of the backup systems, and gave them specific instructions on the following aspects:

Deployment of New Fronts

All the staffs, through their adjutants, will send the general secretariat a complete report on the number of party cells created by each front in its area of operations, the number of men and women recruited, the number of shares of weapons available, and a detailed account of expenditures and available money.

In this way, immediate consideration would be given to the possibility of achieving the deployment of new fronts, and thus the expansion of their radius for action.

The authorities have established that the FARC have really achieved considerable growth, especially in the areas such as El Pato, Magdalena Medio and the Uraba region; and, on the urban level, new militants are being sought in universities and factories.

Politico-Military Training

The fronts will also make an informational study of the work associated with politico-military training, both on the rank and file level and that of the intermediate command and staff.

In this respect, "Tirofijo" stressed that, "The situation awaiting us requires a greater capacity on the part of our combatants for resisting the enemy's action on the two fronts."

In his alert report, the guerrilla leader said: "A major effort for training all the intermediate commands must be carried out, because this is the secure foundation for the growth of the fronts."

The fronts also received orders to intensify their intelligence and counterintelligence action, to prevent "the enemy from being able to infiltrate its agents into our ranks...and to obtain information from within, so as later to strive to destroy us. The enemy has never given up this mission, but, on the contrary, is seeking other means every day, including some unknown to us."

The Combat Order

The main point in the message from the FARC's supreme ringleader is the combat order that he issues: "We must have prepared plans available for attacking the enemy wherever possible. If it does not seek us, we must seek it and attack it."

In this respect, the status of the guerrillas has changed substantially. According to the information in the possession of military intelligence, at the sixth conference of the FARC, held in 1978, instructions were given to attempt organizational growth of an administrative nature, but it was warned that combat against the Army must be avoided to the maximum extent.

It has been established that, in order to justify their dangerous escalation of insurrection, the FARC and the Communist Party in general will attempt to put across, in the form of propaganda, the notion of an alleged "military repression" claimed to be triggered at the termination of the period of time that the armed insurgents have to accept the amnesty proposed by the government. This subversive strategy is set forth in the so-called "FARC Statute of Self-Defense" as part of the theoretical topic of "national security."

'In the People's Favor'

The authorities maintain that, at the present time, the FARC feel greatly hurt by the civic-military action carried out by the Army, which has brought the armed institution the confidence of the people benefiting from it.

The guerrilla group (it was ascertained) responds to this action with mobilizations related to mass self-defense, in accordance with the party's spheres of influence, and regular self-defense, that is, on the part of the groups trained militarily.

Hence, both the party and the guerrillas are expending all their efforts to achieve a second urban civic work stoppage, wherein violent disorders are to coincide with the armed action that is being carried out in the rural area.

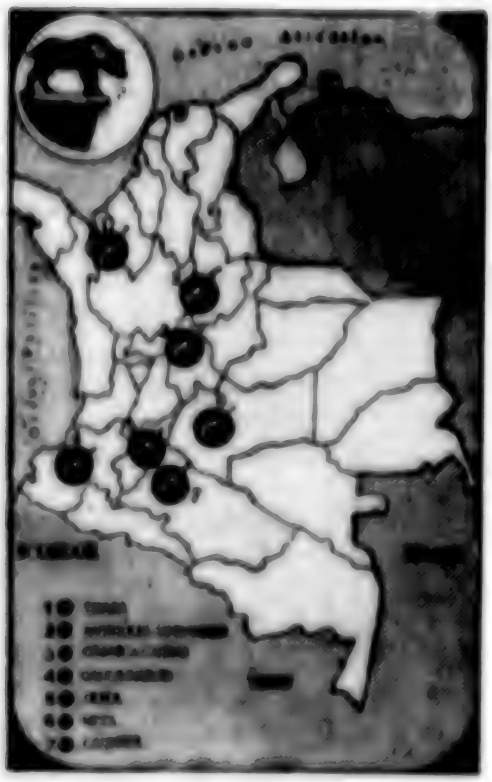
Military intelligence has also anticipated that, with the proliferation of a critical situation involving public order, on which the left in the country is bent, an armed war could be triggered in the people's favor. A high-ranking Army officer noted with concern, "In a civil war, owing to irreversible psychological phenomena, the masses tend to feel that they are victims of the government, and to offer their support to the insurrectional movements."

External Backing

An analytical report of the disclosed terrorist plans indicates that, with regard to the external backing that the FARC may be receiving to implement them, there are only a few indications, including the seizure of such weapons as G-3 and R-15 rifles which do not originate with the military forces. The analysis observes: "It is possible that they are weapons originating with international contraband, supplied to the subversives by the underworld; but it is valid to assume that, just as M-19 has received international communist assistance, the FARC will also receive it, and with more reason."

It is known that Cuba, for example, has offered support to the guerrillas in Central and South America; but, in exchange for this, it is demanded that they seek to unite, especially in countries such as ours, where there are armed groups of different names.

The military authorities have not overlooked the fact that the strongest guerrilla group in the c untry is the FARC movement, which operates with backing from a party protected by the democratic guarantees. At the present time, it has the greatest capacity for concentrating its forces in vast areas of Huila, Meta and Caqueta, with the First, Second, Third, Seventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth and Fourteenth Fronts.



Armed Concentration. The map shows the areas with the greatest concentration of the FARC, a movement now attempting to deploy itself on new fronts, in order to implement a total subversion plan prepared by its general staff, in conjunction with the Communist Party Central Committee.

Pedro Antonio Marin, alias "Honorio"

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FARC ATTACKS VIEWED AS CONFIRMING SUBVERSIVE PLAN

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 5 Jun 81 pp 1, 15

[Article by Jorge Gonzalez: "Wave of FARC Attacks Confirms Subversive Plan"]

[Text] Authorized spokesmen of the Army Command fully confirmed the existence of a Communist plan to spread subversion throughout the country and, in releasing a report on the partial results of intense battles waged in the Magdalena Medio between FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] gangs and units of the Fifth Army Brigade, stemming in particular from raids and attacks on the part of the subversive group, stated that this is proof of the extremist organization's armed deployment, a main aspect of the purposes of the plan.

In fact, during the past 3 months the armed clashes have occurred in the general area contained between Serrania de los Cobardes, in the southwestern part of the department of Santander, the western bank of the Magdalena River and the northern line extending from the San Vicente de Chucuri region as far as Yacopi and Otanche; and in those clashes 21 subversives have been killed, while another 18 were captured.

The sites on which the battles have been most often concentrated have been Llanomonte, El Penon, Rio Minero, Otanche and Cordilleras de las Quinchas, as well as Campo 27, La Aragua, Yacopi, Puerto Parra and Santa Helena del Opon. There, the harassment by the FARC's Fourth and Eleventh Fronts has been constant.

The 18 Killed

The 18 leftist guerrilla militants who were killed, 15 of whom belonged to the FARC's Fourth Front, and the rest to the Eleventh Front, were the following: Name unknown, alias "Pastrana;" Yesid Tovar, alias "Matasiete;" Adalbert Galindo, known as "Comandante Robledo," Alfonso Ortega, alias "Alonso," or "Ciro;" Oscar Rodriguez, alias "Hugo;" Alfonso Avila, alias "Mono Barbas;" Antonio Rayo Delgado, alias "Mono Campano;" Josias Landazabal Hernandez, alias "Alberto;" name unknown, alias "Joaquin;" Siervo Figueroa Gallon, alias "Sangrenegra;" Julio Alberto Martinez; N. Roldan, alias "Patillas;" Sain Bustos, alias "Perejo;" Luis Ismael Quiroga, alias "El Tuerto;" Salvador Agudelo, alias "Caliche;" Arnulfo Vargas Mejia, alias "Cornelio" or "Canuto;" Ismael Aguilar; Adelmo Orjuela Galves; Luis Antonio Ramirez, alias "Wincho" or "Gigante;" Moises Quiro, alias "Chirrinche;" and an unidentified person.

Captured

An additional 18 persons were apprehended by the authorities, 13 from the Fourth Front and five from the Eleventh Front. They are:

Jose Antonio Libardo Cruz, Segundo Vicente Rojas, Jairo Osorio Mateus, Angel Gabriel Camacho, Hector Emilio Pino, Alfonso Galeano Monroy, Pedro Elias Espitia, Antonio Rueda, Miguel Otero, Pablo Cadena, Varselio Lopez, Jose Gil Mora; Jose Maria Barbosa Cruz, alias "Clodomiro" or "Valdomiro;" Clodomiro Nino Uribe; Hector Castillo Granda, alias "El Flaco;" Rosendo Barros, alias "Churco;" Luis Angel Quiroga, alias "Tuerto;" and Calixto Bustos.

Weapons and Documents

After the consecutive confrontations, the authorities took possession of weapons of different calibers, rifles, carbines, shotguns, revolvers, pistols and also explosives; as well as important documents which attest to the points in the "total subversion" plan reported yesterday by EL SIGLO.

These documents include copies of the "FARC Statute of Self-Defense," one major section of which was released to this newspaper yesterday: "Experience has proven that, in the process of our revolution, there has been a combination of all the types of mass struggle....the ruling classes resort to armed violence every time an attempt is made to carry out any important change....This requires the people's self-defense, which is a process of politicization, and organization of the masses leading them to armed struggle as one of its superior forms, which will pave the way for the ensuing insurrectionist courses of action....But, primarily, the Communist Party is the party of the Colombian revolution,prepared to open the path of the revolution at any cost...."

The Communists Have Not Spoken

Yesterday, this newspaper made constant inquiries among noted representatives of the Communist Party regarding the aforementioned plan, but they evaded dialog, and refused to make statements, confining themselves to remarking that the political organization would soon make an official pronouncement in the matter.

Labor union leaders and organizations, for their part, expressed bewilderment at the existence of a plan of this magnitude, and were agreed in stating that, insofar as they were concerned, they would not allow the possibility of a second national civic work stoppage to contribute to the fostering of social chaos in our country.

Various political sectors and sectors of public opinion declared that they would make a careful study of the situation that has cropped up, and that their conclusions would be made public within a short time.

Guerrilla Liaison in Central America Caught

The capture of the guerrilla liaison, German Humberto Higuera, in the town of Tutunedo, near Quibdo (Choco), with pamphlets referring to guerrilla movements that are operating in Central America, put the state's investigative forces on the alert.

The latter reached the conclusion that the subject, in addition to being an activist in San Salvador and Nicaragua, was seeking contacts in Colombia to facilitate the entry of other subversives and certain weaponry. German Humberto Higuera was captured by F-2 units when he was attempting to reach Quibdo, in order to enter the central part of the country by that route. He had in his possession pamphlets from the Farabundo Marti Front, which operates in El Salvador, and from the Democratic Revolutionary Front.

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MONTANE SCORES WESTERN SUPPORT OF S. AFRICA

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 31 May 81 p 16

[Text]

● Speech by Jesús Montané at International Conference on Sanctions against South Africa, held in Paris ● Says 20 million Africans are discriminated against, humiliated and exploited by a predatory fascist clique

● *PARIS, May 22 — Jesús Montané, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba, firmly condemned the support which imperialism is giving the racist regime of South Africa when he spoke here today at the International Conference on Sanctions against South Africa.*

The head of the Cuban delegation to the important event made the following speech to the plenary meeting:

Mr. President;

Esteemed Delegates:

First of all, the Cuban delegation wishes to commend the worthy and efficient work of the president of this Conference, our friend Salim A. Salim, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Tanzania.

We would like to present our country's considerations with the utmost brevity and clarity before this Conference.

In the first place, we believe that all the participants in this meeting shoulder an extraordinary political and moral responsibility. Seldom has humanity's conscience been so insulted, so denigrated and mocked, as by the recent big Western powers' veto of the draft sanctions against the racist South African regime for its illegal and continued occupation of Namibia. Such an action at the U.N. Security Council was, more than the exercise of those powers' right of veto, an arrogant imposition of the imperialist veto on international law and the just aspirations of the Namibian people in their struggle for freedom and independence.

José Martí, the most revered of Cuban patriots, said that "any true man's cheek should smart from a blow to any other man's cheek." All of us gathered here are smarting from the blow just dealt our sister African countries. This demands a firm and categorical response. Cuba will not spare any effort and will do as much as it can to help this Conference produce a concrete, effective action program of struggle against apartheid, and solidarity with the liberation movements and the peoples of southern Africa. That should be our attitude to this imperialist mockery.

It is now more important than ever to redouble universal condemnation and repulse of the hateful racist regime prevailing in South Africa. Twenty million Africans are discriminated against, humiliated and exploited there by a predatory fascist clique. The most inhuman and hateful practices are used against them. Forcing the native population to live in bantustans turns the black African masses into pariahs on their own soil. What permits the survival of such a regime? Terror alone does not maintain it. It is maintained by an international alliance formed by U.S. imperialism, a number of NATO powers and the Zionist state of Israel. It is supported by those countries' transnationals, who give racists their financial, economic, technical and military collaboration. It is because of this criminal union that the oppressors of the South African people, the usurpers of the Namibian people's right to self-determination and sovereignty are able to evade the voluntary embargo decreed by the oil exporting countries. This is what allows them to manufacture 75 percent of their arms, to purchase the other war supplies needed and to have access even to nuclear technology. Reportedly, South Africa is already in a position to produce nuclear weapons. If

true, the racist regime would wield that new threat against the independent African countries and against the segregated black population in South Africa and Namibia. This confirms that South Africa has become a permanent threat for international peace and security.

There is no doubt that the South African racists presently feel encouraged. The victory of extreme right reactionary forces in the United States stimulates their irrevocable tendency to violence and aggression. The U.S. imperialists shamelessly proclaim South Africa as their traditional ally and offer a royal welcome to the ringleaders of this stronghold of Nazi-fascist ideology. The United States sponsors the project for the establishment of a South Atlantic military alliance, with the participation of South Africa and several reactionary South American governments. It is not surprising that the government which labels socialist countries, revolutionaries and national liberation movements throughout the world as "terrorists" is increasing its support for the Pretoria regime and is even trying to repeal the so-called Clark Amendment so as to openly back the treacherous counterrevolutionary gangs with the purpose of destabilizing the Government of the People's Republic of Angola. The imperialists seek to increase their military aid to the racists who murder hundreds upon hundreds of people in southern Angola, brazenly violate Angolan territory, criminally attack Mozambique, threaten Zimbabwe's recently attained independence and make Zambia, Botswana and other countries subject to continued attacks and pressures.

Under these circumstances, the cause of Namibia's independence is threatened by growing dangers. This is confirmed by the failure of the Geneva Conference and the arrogant attitude maintained there by South Africa's representatives. The imperialist maneuver, led by the United States, is evident. They seek to snatch away Namibia's right to freedom and self-determination; they seek to ignore SWAPO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people, and to impose a neocolonial formula on that country which would only serve to mask the constant plundering and exploitation they have long endured.

Will the racists and their supporters be able to prevent Namibia's attaining true independence? We are convinced they will not. If the road of negotiations is closed, the Namibian patriots and their vanguard organization will tirelessly continue along the just path of the people's armed struggle, which they have heroically followed for 15 years. Any attempt to perpetuate the illegal occupation of Namibia will continue to meet with the indignant repulse of the African countries, the Non-Aligned Movement, the overwhelming majority of UN member states and all of the world's progressive forces. International solidarity will continue to grow and to contribute to do away with any reactionary plan aimed at depriving Namibia of its right to freedom.

What can we and should we do to support the enslaved peoples of South Africa and Namibia?

Cuba believes that, first of all, it is necessary to relentlessly carry forward the battle for the implementation of global and compulsory sanctions against the Pretoria regime. We should not withdraw from this struggle.

Cuba hails the position announced by the first secretary of the French Socialist Party, Mr. Lionel Jospin, to the effect that his Party will ask the new French Government to support the application of sanctions against the racist regime of South Africa and to champion the independence of Namibia.

It is also indispensable to denounce more strongly the governments and monopolies that violate the arms embargo imposed on South Africa or that contribute, with their credits and financial assistance, to support that monstrous regime. We have already noted the important and valuable role being played by nongovernmental organizations in various Western countries. We should call upon them to make even greater efforts.

Notwithstanding the latest veto imposed by the United States and other Western powers at the UN Security Council, our country considers that this Conference should call on all states that have not yet done so, to adopt all necessary measures, including the oil embargo, to put an end to all commercial transactions with South Africa. We should also call on those countries that have agreed on the voluntary oil embargo to increase their vigilance and to adopt control measures concerning the final destination of the fuel they sell to other countries, to avoid the maneuvers through which imperialist transnationals continue to supply it to the racists.

Cuba is convinced that all the peoples in Africa and throughout the world must — now more than ever before — express our support for and confidence in the people of South Africa and their vanguard organization, the African National Congress; our full and resolute support for the patriots of Namibia and their worthy representative, SWAPO; our closest cooperation with the Organization of African Unity and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries within the solidarity they are extending to the Front Line States and southern Africa's liberation movements.

If imperialism challenges humanity's conscience, our response must be commensurate with such a challenge. Let the imperialists and the racists know that we will not yield to any maneuver, blackmail or threat. The struggle against apartheid and its crimes is a sacred and unavoidable cause for all worthy men. The time has come for all to join in this battle. The Cuban people, loyal to their solidary feelings and their revolutionary convictions, will continue to express their support and solidarity for the heroic struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia to banish from their countries, once and for all, the shame of this inhuman and criminal regime.

Thank you very much.

CSO: 3020/120

LOPEZ-PORTILLO INTERVIEWED ON OIL PRICES, PESO

Mexico City EL DIA 12 Jun 81 pp 6-7

[Stenographic version of the question-and-answer session between President Jose Lopez-Portillo and editors of Mexican newspapers and magazines at the conclusion of the luncheon on the occasion of Freedom of the Press Day; place not specified]

Mr G.K. Reddy, editor of THE HINDU, from India: Mr President: I am deeply honored to have been invited to this outstanding event today and I consider myself doubly privileged in having been granted the opportunity to pose a question to the leader of a great nation that enjoys high esteem throughout the Third World.

We in India have followed with great interest the initiative you took in calling for a North-South summit, as well as your efforts to lend an East-West dimension to this meeting.

I would like to know, Mr President, what prospects do you see for this historic meeting?

Answer: I would be happy to answer your question and I want to express my feeling of gratitude and pleasure that a representative of the great country of India is with us now to begin this session, which on freedom of expression day is reaffirming a complementary right: the right to be informed.

I have often said and I said so at the United Nations that as the world is currently conceived and organized, it is divided between north and south, and east and west. The north-south division is a geographical analogy to indicate countries at different levels of economic development. It is economics that separates these two worlds. The east-west division is ideological and political, as represented by the bipolarization of the world into the two major hemegonies at present.

Having acknowledged the plurality of the contemporary world and the freedom to choose political options, I have stressed that an economic realignment of the world is a viable prospect. For this reason, along with Austria, a developed country, I brought up the possibility of a North-South dialog, between developed and developing countries, represented by their chiefs of state or government.

The existence of deep-seated economic divisions in trade, technology transfer, financing, currency and various kinds of exchanges truly opens up an abyss between the two types of development.

World economic disorder, the ability of the powerful countries to transfer their problems to the less powerful, the conflicts that they cause and resolve among themselves give rise to profound injustices and a lack of equity with the rest of the developing countries.

The problems that world economic disorder causes for the countries that produce raw materials and import capital goods and industrial inputs bring ongoing processes of deterioration which, along with inflation, are forcing many developing countries to export living standards in order to maintain their capacity for survival.

This fact has been proposed as an issue for deliberation and decision in the only forum that mankind has been able to create to resolve world problems: the United Nations.

Even though this forum deals with problems involving the relations between the developing countries and the industrialized countries, the technicians that have represented each of the countries and the officials that have done so have not even been able to bring up the problem, much less resolve it.

Under these circumstances, I have thought about the need to establish a special top-level forum in which political aims can be expressed. This summit meeting is not supposed to resolve any of the problems that are going to be brought up. It is not a legal forum for pledges; it is a forum for bringing things up. It is a forum in which those who hold political responsibility in the most representative countries of the North and South are supposed to explain how they view problems and what political solutions they would accept. It is a forum in which the highest-level political leaders will explain how they view their actual conditions as problems and will make recommendations so that international legal commitments can be proposed at the proper forum, the United Nations.

We have laid the groundwork for this summit meeting. To answer your question specifically, I am optimistic about the outcome of the meeting to be held in Cancun. Most countries, practically all of them except the Soviet Union, have agreed to attend the meeting, and the Soviet Union did not accept because it does not feel that the problems involve it, not because it does not think it is a good idea.

The United States, speaking through its president, recently agreed to attend. This acceptance and the fact that the United States thinks that the problem in Central America and the Caribbean should be resolved through an economic development plan indicate a willingness to discuss the issue and recommend a solution. I am optimistic, sir.

The Housing Problem Is Tied to Jobs

Oscar Alarcon, assistant editor of EL HERALDO DE MEXICO: Mr President, my question is strictly domestic. Is there a serious housing shortage in Mexico because it has ceased to be a good business for investors? Do you think that giving tax breaks on investments earmarked for housing would resolve the problem?

Answer: I think that this is a partial solution to meet the demand of a segment of the population that does not own housing at the moment and has to rent. But the housing problem in Mexico goes much deeper. With incentives we can clearly encourage the construction of one type of housing whose availability has been dropping because it has not been promoted enough. But the housing problem is tied to the problem of jobs, the problem of decent wages.

If we want to resolve the housing problem, just like all of the problems of injustice in this country, what we have to do first and foremost is to generate jobs, which are the basic source of justice in Mexico. The country is organized to be just if there are jobs; if there are no jobs, the injustices are striking. We must understand that the wages from each job must be enough to meet minumum needs, at least, and housing is a basic one. Therefore, the government of the republic feels that one of the basic aims in its programs, and I am talking about all of them, but lumped together, is to provide jobs to Mexicans so that they can meet their minimum needs, at the very least, one of which is housing.

It is true that because of the declining profitability of housing construction, building has dropped off. No one feels there is enough incentive. In my last Government Report I set forth a series of incentives to revive the construction of dwelling houses, which have to complement the many others that the appropriate agencies, by law or as a benefit for workers, are building. This idea will have to be implemented to fill the vacuum, whihc we deplore.

With these and other incentives we are trying to resolve one of the country's basic problems, which stem from injustice in income distribution. I am confident that this measure will meet the demands of a segment of the population that is currently faced with low availability and, therefore, excessive rent increases because rental units are in short supply here.

We Will Achieve Self-Sufficiency in Food

Federico Bracamontes, editor in chief of DIARIO DE MEXICO: Mr President, insufficient farm output, a drop in the volume and price of our main exports, inflation as a domestic and world phenomenon and indebtedness would seem to be the proper ingredients in a recipe for devaluing our currency. What can you tell us in this regard?

Answer: I would like to answer the question you asked me, which deals with the overall economic outlook, in sections.

As far as insufficient farm output is concerned, the government was pleased to report to the nation 1 or 2 days ago about the success that the Mexican Food Supply System (SAM) is having in promoting farm production, which is hitting

unprecedented figures. All indications are that very shortly, if we have good weather, if we continue our promotional efforts and if we have the support of Mexico's peasant farmers, the country will achieve self-sufficiency in food. I am not talking about a surplus in the farm sector, although once again I would like to stress something that is often said but not heeded: the country's farm sector runs a surplus. We export more than we import. Except for one really critical and unusual year in our history, the trade balance has been in the black. The sector's problem in recent years has been basic grains. But I want to emphasize that the efforts made under the sector plan, which are channeled specifically by the strategy of the SAM, are bearing fruit, to the point that this year we will have a bumper crop and we hope that the crop now being planted will meet all our needs.

As far as petroleum is concerned, let us not forget that oil is being sold on a disorderly market that we want to make orderly through a world energy plan. Due to unforeseeable circumstances, the oil market turned upward (because of the Iran-Iraq war, for example, among others) and led many countries with large purchasing power to build up sizable reserves. There is a glut now, and therefore prices are dropping. If order is not restored to this situation under a plan very similar to the one that I have proposed, it will surely, in the long run, prompt further disorders, which will inevitably affect our country.

The unfavorable development of a drop in oil prices, which we decided on suddenly, is only for a month, which will give us time to reassess the situation more calmly and rationally. Fortunately, our more than adequate harvests will make grain imports unnecessary. Therefore, the drop in foreign exchange due to fall in oil prices will be largely offset by the foodstuffs that we do not have to import, and thus our foreign exchange budget, to coin a term, will not be too hard hit.

Inflation, both here and abroad, is something beyond our control. At the moment, unfortunately, it is part of the world economy in all political areas, taking the form of inflation in some and shortages or lines in others. But in both worlds, the capitalist and the socialist, it is a cyclical problem that might or might not be eliminated, depending on how badly the countries that suffer from inflation want to do so, but of course that does not involve us.

We are battling inflation the only way we feel a country like ours can: by producing, not by restraining demand but by organizing sufficient supply for the classes that are hardest hit by inflation.

I could go into much further detail, but since your question deals specifically with the devaluation of the peso, I would remind you that it has been floating for several years now, that it is on the market of currency supply and demand and that it is seeking its own level vis-a-vis other currencies and as a function of our country's capacities. Both devaluation and revaluation can happen every day. The peso is floating. There is no reason to raise this question as an alarm, yet we are still suffering from a veritable devaluation psychosis because we remember those difficult days when the entire national economy was organized to maintain the peso's parity, and the only thing we were doing was to reward currency speculators and the people toying with the peso here and abroad.

Our economy is no longer organized to maintain parity. The peso goes up or down depending on market pressures and the country's potential for selling its products on overseas markets.

I should mention that at times certain countries have devalued their currencies to make their economies more competitive. Japan did this a few decades ago because it had a large export capacity and it was to the country's advantage to devalue its currency.

At the moment Mexico is consuming practically everything that it produces, and the merchandise we produce for export is being exported. We do not need any special devaluation policy to boost exports. We have other systems, other ways, different kinds of incentives: taxes, subsidies, considerations, to achieve the economic results we want, by decentralizing production and other aspects and by promoting exports to the extent we can.

But since we do not have a large exporting capacity, it would make no sense to devalue our currency, as many producers, among others, are recommending. It would make no sense; in fact, it might fuel inflation and punish many savers.

Mexico has a balanced monetary policy. We have the analytical and decision-making ability and enough reserves to keep the peso floating in the soundest and most suitable way for the country.

Northwest Water Resources Plan To Continue

Mr Jose Alberto Healy, editor of EL IMPARCIAL of Sonora: Mr President, the Northwest Water Resources Plan is one of the Federal Government's most ambitious projects. It calls for the harnessing of the waters that flow in the Nayarit and Sinaloa rivers towards the sea. It would insure irrigation for perhaps one million new hectares of land for grain growing from Nayarit to Sonora. It might be a definitive solution, not just a decisive factor, in the Food Supply System. What are the prospects, Mr President, for the construction of the Northwest Water Resources Plan and could you give us approximate dates in connection with it?

Answer: The Northwest Water Resources Plan calls for shifting the water from basins that are currently saturated to basins with growing areas. It is one of the most promising possibilities for our farm output capacity. The plan was decided on many years ago, and we are promoting and will continue to promote it in accordance with our investment capabilities.

The simple fact is that for a long time the regimes of the revolution concentrated a great deal of investment in a specific geographic area, and thus the northwest was basically left with its original potential.

Based on the need to distribute income in other regions of the country (because income distribution must be by area, not just among the segments of society), we are convinced that we must develop other areas so that other Mexicans can have the same opportunities as their brothers in the northwest, who have developed and taken advantage of a magnificent modern agriculture in that region.

This is a problem of priorities, of alternatives, we might say. We have to invest the country's limited resources in other regions, without abandoning the Northwest Water Resources Plan but while emphasizing other possibilities. It is under way, but we are not going to rush it, because we have a limited investment capability. If we were to concentrate out investments too much, the country would feel the inflationary impact of government spending.

Since we have limits, we have to distribute the nation's income and borrowing capacity harmoniously throughout the nation so that we can develop as much as possible. I can acknowledge the zone's great potential, but I cannot say when we will finish; my answer is that we will continue to work on this project.

Satisfied With the SPP [Secretariat of Programming and Budget]

Mr Jorge Alvarez del Castillo, editor in chief of EL INFORMADOR of Guadalajara: Mr President, one of your administration's accomplishments is the creation of the Secretariat of Programming and Budget. The mass media have not written and said enough about this for the people to realize how valuable it is for Mexico. Could you tell us the tangible benefits that this secretariat has yielded since it was created and what contributions to our country we can expect of it in the future?

Answer: If I were to talk only about the SPP, my answer would have to be too specific. The SPP was created as part of a major Federal Government effort called the Administrative Reform.

Ever since the campaign I stressed that our planning capacity could not be utilized fully because we lacked administrative agencies. Therefore, we had to correct this by reforming various facets of the government, planning in particular, so that we could divide and bring together again functions that used to be dispersed in various secretariats, mainly Finance and the former Secretariat of the Presidency.

The creation of the SPP was based on a very simple philosophy: We were not going to make programming conditional on revenue; rather, we were going to tailor programming to the budget and the budget to programming, so that we could lend greater consistency to government spending and decisions and proceed from there. Planning used to boil down practically to just public investment. There was talk of planning when public investment was organized.

We feel that all government actions, not just public investment, must be planned out and that the government's various agencies and institutions should democratically put before the nation the activities that have been suggested or decided on, as our democratic planning permits.

The central agency that organizes this entire process is the Secretariat of Programming and Budget. For various reasons, our experience led to the appearance of sector plans first, which were then organized under the Secretariat of Programming and Budget, which organized in final form what was called the

Comprehensive Compatibility Plan, to monitor how well our goals were being achieved, the efficiency with which they were being accomplished and their consistency with the philosophical principles of our system.

The SPP is an administrative agency whose basic tasks are to introduce, represent, monitor and evaluate this process, and it also organizes programming to bring the budget in line with our planned goals. Its impact on the country has been highly satisfactory, so far as I can judge (because I am a party to it). We have a tool for evaluating ourselves, the plan, and based on it we can reaffirm or rectify our course. It is a magnificent administrative system, in other words, a magnificent service system that has enabled us to move forward in, not complete (because this has no end), the national planning process.

I am satisfied with the performance of the Secretariat of Programming and Budget.

Efforts Towards True Federalism

Mr Carlos R. Menendez, editor in chief of DIARIO DEL YUCUTAN: We feel, Mr President, that two of your administration's goals, namely, decentralizing the government and equitably channeling to the states the country's new revenues, are necessary steps to give the provinces the services and job opportunities they need to diversify their economies, raise their living standards, check the abandonment of the countryside and thus halt the exodus of Mexicans who emigrate to the Federal District in search of a better future and aggravate its over-population, congestion and other problems stemming from its excessive size.

Mr President, what can we expect from the final stage of Mr Jose Lopez-Portillo's administration with regard to these important goals of decentralization through the Administrative Reform and real federal support for projects in the provinces?

Answer: Solid progress along the road that we have proven is possible. One of the basic objectives in our government program, to which I have constantly and am constantly referring, is the redistribution of public wealth among the country's regions, not only among the factors of production. They are a natural part of the country's form of political organization: federalism, and within federalism, of Mexico's form of basic political organization, which is the municipality.

We have strived to make federalism real, genuine, and the best way to support this is by transferring funds that used to be concentrated in the Federal Government to the states. We have tried to do so with a view towards various goals, some in our tax systems and others in support systems, for example, the single coordination agreements, which are turning into development agreements and incentives for the creation of job opportunities in the zones in which the country is best prepared and would receive the greatest benefits.

All of our planning efforts are geared towards accomplishing these goals. These are the greatest rational efforts (and forgive me for the vanity implicit in my words) that the country has ever exerted to reverse its spontaneous demographic trends. This spontaneous demographic trend has led to a concentration of

people and economic capacity on the tableland, and this spontaneous influx, which is due to specific situations and lacks a definite purpose, has prompted serious demographic difficulties (this city is the best example of that) and diminished our economy's competitive capacity to resolve the nation's problems, which we can tackle only if we have export capacity, the country's sole chance for full employment. This forces us to decentralize and leave the tableland in order to achieve economic and demographic results along our coasts and in the various spots in our country in which economic activity is most appropriate for the series of reasons taken into consideration in the respective plans.

Now that the plans have been drawn up and the projects under way, thus proving that they can be built, with industrial ports not just on the drawing board but as emerging realities and with all of the industries being built around the country (and many of you who live in the provinces are eyewitnesses to this), we are proving that we can do the things we want to do. The country is already reaping the benefits of planning, and the benefits of decentralization in particular are a fact that will become increasingly obvious.

Sovereignty Not Violated

Mr Regino Diaz Redondo, editor in chief of EXCELSIOR: Mr President, in the event that the U.S. Senate declines to ratify the 200-mile patrimonial sea treaty and thus our marine sovereignty continues to be impaired, what will Mexico do to defend our fishing, mining and hydrocarbons resources in these areas? I would also like to know, if possible, Mr President, whether you and President Reagan discussed this matter during your recent meeting in Washington.

Answer: In the first place, I can assert that our sovereignty has not been violated, nor will Mexico allow it to be violated.

Relatively weak as we are, we defend our rights when we have them, and we are defending them now. The issue in dispute (it's not really even in dispute) is before the U.S. Senate. As far as the Executive Branch, as far as I am concerned, the matter has been completely settled. What remain are internal procedures in the United States.

If because of some clouded understanding or with an eye towards resources of some kind, it were to mark off boundaries, we would be in the absurd world of high-handedness.

It is not resources that mark a country's boundaries; it is the law, and the law is our goal and our banner.

We will defend in every forum and with all our strength Mexico's right to its established, agreed upon and, to us, definitively confirmed borders. And since they were confirmed for Mexico's purposes, the issue did not even come up during my visit with the U.S. chief executive, because the problem is before the U.S. Senate, not the American president. Depending on what the Senate decides, we will act, but we have only one path, and it does not admit retreat.

World Plan Curb Disorderly Use of Energy

Dr Martin Luis Guzman Ferrer, editor in chief of TIEMPO: Mr President, with your permission I would like to again bring up the oil issue.

Now that the supply and demand ratios have shifted on the world oil market, at least for the short term, inasmuch as there is a crude oil glut, now that OPEC has cut prices and frozen ceiling prices and now that the major importing countries have managed to cut their oil consumption and diversify their energy sources, what repercussions will these developments have on our oil policy? In other words, Mr President, will our oil production ceiling be raised or lowered? What about our export prices? Finally, will domestic prices be modified?

Answer: We should not be surprised at what is happening with oil as one of mankind's energy sources.

I have been stressing for a long time that it is a defective structure, not just a market, that has to be corrected in a planned fashion.

As I noted just a moment ago and as I am constantly stressing at domestic and overseas forums, and now here, the World Energy Plan must provide for mankind's transition from the era of oil consumption to the era of alternative sources, and this plan entails a rationalization in the exploration for and development of all resources, including oil, an effort to rationalize, apportion and moderate consumption.

In one way or another, because this is reasonable, and in ways other than internationally organized programs, some of my proposals are being put into practice, and the powerful countries that used to waste oil are conserving it, whether by cutting consumption through an elimination of waste or by substituting alternative sources. This is a highly positive development in the long run, although in the short term, of course, it entails adjustments and readjustments on an uncertain market that is tied to political developments with long-term effects.

It is precisely these risks of market fluctuations and disorder that Mexico would like to correct through what I call the World Energy Plan, which as I have said many times, I want to stress the importance of, because I feel that what is reasonable is possible.

The way I see it, we are experiencing a temporary effect of this disorderly oil market.

The stockpiling of oil and the disorderly situation within OPEC itself has prompted disarray that will surely subside soon, bringing a return to previous channels. This situation affects Mexico, of course, which is prepared to resolve these issues.

From what we know about the current situation, there is no reason for Mexico to change its production ceiling as established in our National Energy Plan.

Barring extraordinary developments that I do not foresee, we are not going to alter our output ceiling to compensate.

I think that the country's structure and its capacity to respond will provide an answer to this temporary problem of disarray.

We are analyzing the oil market carefully so that we can take the appropriate measures, in some way deal with the situation and correct a hasty measure that we feel is temporary.

Domestic fuel prices will not increase in the near future so as not to worsen this year's inflationary pressures. But, and I am saying this in response to your applause, for which I thank you and which comes easily when decisions such as these are made and which might be confused with flattery, I would like us all to reflect (and when I say all, I am referring to Mexicans) on the fact that our oil products are among the least expensive in the world and that we are squandering them, we are burning them irresponsibly and that we have to make an effort to prevent this waste, which is diminishing our ability to provide answers for future generations. The very low price of our oil and its derivatives must not encourage waste.

I am appealing to all of us not to be wasteful and not to become oil gluttons, and I will continue to make this appeal until I succeed.

We are burning it irresponsibly. Logic tells us, and I am saying this because I don't like to deceive anyone, that the best way to prevent an inexpensive thing from being wasted is to raise its price.

We are not doing this because we do not want the innocent to pay for the guilty, because the inflationary impact of such an irresponsible action would hit harder at the working classes than at the people who own cars or can afford gas.

Hence, the State is taking a balanced approach in seeing to it that such injustices are not aggravated. I would emphasize, however, that we all have to cut down on our consumption and see to it that the demands of future generations are met because demand is growing in unprecedented fashion. At this rate, we are even going to have problems producing gasoline, processing oil into gasoline. We would have to invest more money in refineries to process gasoline from oil in order to meet demand, which would be absurd. It would be absurd if we had to invest in more refineries to meet an inordinate demand.

Gentlemen: my response, which has been readily and gratifyingly greeted with applause ("We will not boost gasoline prices," to come right down to it), must not encourage either disarray or waste, which is doing us a great deal of harm. If we keep the price low, it will be by dint of major long-term sacrifices by the nation itself.

Gentlemen, let us make an effort to reflect on the matter and rationalize our consumption.

"I Have the Same Questions"

Mr Guillermo Chao Evergenyi, assistant editor in chief of EL SOL DE MEXICO: Mr President, with the selection of the PRI candidate for president coming up, it is inevitable, not just morbid curiosity, for us to ask ourselves a number of questions. If we acknowledge the theory that no political development is isolated or fortuitous and that domestic and external political conditions have changed substantially since you took power, domestically with the Political Reform and externally with the noteworthy changes in the leadership of nations with which Mexico has close relations, now that you have felt the nation's pulse, Mr President, what is your assessment of Mexico's immediate political future?

Answer: I have the same questions and as a Mexican citizen and a member of a party, I ask myself them too.

Mr Romulo O'Farrill Jr, editor in chief of NOVEDADES: Mr President, your meeting at Camp David with President Reagan, which is of major national significance and of great interest for our hemisphere and which, in my opinion, opens up a new and better era in relations between our two countries, has yielded results that have not been made known.

Principles Publicly Espoused in United States

You addressed such important issues as the situation in and likely future of Central America and the Caribbean, illegal aliens, the fishing treaty, as well as Mexican-American trade and the food commitment. Given its importance, would you be so good as to go into further detail on the accomplishments of your visit, the hallmark of which was friendship.

Answer: The answer is actually contained in your question. I have returned deeply satisfied (and my associates who accompanied me will bear this out) from one of the many meetings that the presidents of our two countries have historically had.

We have very longstanding relations with the United States; there have been ups and downs, and our problems have been articulated for quite some time. For this reason, the valuable thing about these meetings is not so much the setting forth of problems as the attitudes for resolving them, which is the really important thing, because the responses have almost become routine, conventional, a custom, a habit, a way of life. So the important thing in these cases is the attitude of the governments, and the attitude we found in Washington was highly constructive, friendly, respectful, considerate and interested in articulating the problems well and resolving them even better.

The issues that you mention were dealt with on various levels. On a personal level, first with President Reagan and then with his main associates, I basically discussed international problems, mainly the ones in the area close to the interests, emotions and responsibility of Mexico, if by responsibility we mean our ability to resolve problems, in other words, Central America and the Caribbean.

I went there with a platform of principles to which we are publicly pledged. I expressed them in respectful but firm disagreement and I encountered broad-mindedness and great receptivity. There was debate but not confrontation, and after all was said and done, there was an understanding of our viewpoints, which were also considerately voiced.

I placed a great of emphasis on the nature of the problems in the area: the confusion of social, economic and political problems that are complicated by the North-South, East-West relationship, that prevent each country from resolving its own problems and that pave the way for outside interests to intervene, not to resolve these problems but to portray them as issues in relations between the powerful, as battlegrounds or controversies. I stressed this view a great deal, and to my satisfaction I was presented with an encouraging proposal that we are moving forward on. The Americans have proposed to Canada, Venezuela and other countries (including Mexico) a development plan for the area, which was poorly dubbed the Mini-Marshall Plan, a hastily devised name that does not describe its intention. In our talks we specified that Mexico would cooperate in what it has viewed as the only solution. But not only have we proposed this as a goal, we have already made it a reality. If the problem is economic, then the way to resolve it is by guaranteeing the area supplies of its basic input for development, which is oil. And we reminded our American friends (and this was not just rhetoric) that Mexico and Venezuela had already been headed in that direction to the limit of their capabilities and that we were very interested in broadening our involvement on three conditions: first, that it not be an arms buildup program; second, that no nation in the area be excluded, and third, that it not have ideological restraints and be aimed against any specific position. And then we added this: knowing the problems as Mexico does, all of the tensions in the area must be defused; it is not enough for the powerful to come to terms, because that confirms the idea that the world is bipolar and that only the powerful have a voice. I emphasized that the small and the weak also have things to say and responsibilities to fulfill in conflict-ridden areas and that one of these areas (which used to be caricatured in the humor magazines of Latin American revolutions, uprisings, riots and coups) had changed from a humorous issue into a hostile, dangerous issue on the front pages of the world's newspapers. I stressed that the area had to be listened to and that tensions had to eased there in order to pave the way for peace, which also goes by the name of development in freedom and justice.

If we do not realize that this is the only way to resolve the problems, we will be perpetuating them. I strongly emphasized that Mexico wants to be useful in the area (it is only interested in being useful) and that it has an ability to communicate in order to find points on which we agree and to remove the ones on which we disagree. I was heeded on this point too, and structures are being set up (we will be moving ahead on this in the days to come) to delve further into, refine and bolster these developments and these points. On the international level this was the most outstanding part of our talks.

Trade and tourism were the most important bilateral issues in our talks. With regard to trade, I explained Mexico's reasons for stimulating its economy and achieving certain effects in it that could be interpreted as subsidies that

run counter to the international arrangements, like GATT, that the United States supports. I explained to them in detail that the supports, the incentives and the promotional efforts that Mexico has to resort to and that are expressly set forth in its plans were not indiscriminate subsidies to enhance our overseas competitiveness, but rather indispensable sovereign decisions to resolve our economic problems and, therefore, dampen their social impact. I told them that we had to generate jobs to resolve our people's problems, that we had to provide incentives for decentralization and a better regional apportionment of our economic capabilities, that they had to understand that their neighbor to the south, as part of the North-South relationship, was subject to its own particular conditions that prevented it from joining the international agencies that deal with trade and that we have to be treated as a "sui generis" neighbor. Study commissions were set up for this purpose. Their understanding was gratifying to us.

As far as fishing is concerned, we reopened a line of communication that had been cut off. We are going to analyze soon the circumstances that will enable us to resolve not only the specific problem of the embargo but something much more important as well: the conservation of a species that might be wiped out if we do not organize the catch. This is perhaps the most important objective of countries that, like ours, border on the migratory paths of tuna. The basic goal is to organize the catch of this species before we deplete it, because given the current trend, we are running the risk of depleting it, and soon.

Thus, the lines of communication for articulating and resolving these problems have been reopened.

We also took up the immigration issue. They told us about the various bills and programs that they have for resolving the problem from the United States viewpoint. No program has been completed yet, but one will soon be submitted to President Reagan, and they are going to be so kind as to present it to us for our consideration. This is kind of them because this is an issue that involves United States sovereignty. It is up to us to make our own decisions in our own territory, which can in no way curtail a Mexican's freedom to travel and settle where he wishes. We cannot make any commitment to prevent a Mexican from traveling wherever he wishes in our country.

On the other hand, I have stressed and will stress that migratory rights cannot be confused with labor and human rights. Mexico will uphold these views, but we will, of course, agree to discuss this complex problem, which will be solved when Mexico can offer its citizens full and satisfactory employment.

But I told them something that we ought to think about. Right now Mexico needs a lot of skilled Mexicans who are working there. I told them: "Soon, perhaps, we will have to advertise to bring back the Mexicans whom we need now and who are presently helping their economy. We need electricians, plumbers, carpenters, electronics experts and skilled workers in Mexico, in light of our manpower supply mix. And we will soon have to ask them to return to their homeland."

We are thus demonstrating that development planning is the proper path. They understand quite well that there are two factors involved in the problem of undocumented or migratory workers. One, a labor market in Mexico that does not meet the demands of many of our countrymen, and two, job opportunities in the United States. According to our investigations, an Mexican in the United States ilegally finds work there in 7 days. This shows that there is a heavy demand for Mexican workers there. The United States has a sovereign right, of course, to allow in whomever they deem appropriate and fit. But they have to take a look at the effects of cheap and efficient manpower, like Mexican workers, on their economy. And I am saying this without any demagoguery. I am talking about jobs that many of the people on unemployment insurance do not want to take. Mexicans take these jobs, pay taxes and do not even receive many of the social benefits available in the United States.

The problem is complex, and there is no easy solution. What a good thing it is that our two countries are looking into the problem by common agreement to come up with the most appropriate solution. I think that the solution here is to create sound structures so that some of our finest people, the people who dare to be adventuresome,do not leave the country. The solution is here, and here is where we will decide on it and come up with it. The solution on the other side is up to the United States.

Our talks were rounded out with a look into other different issues. But I want to conclude here with my initial observation: what really mattered at this meeting was the attitude and the climate. We have erased an absurd tension that stemmed from a lack of understanding. There is understanding and something else that I have underscored in all my speeches: respect. And when we are treated with respect, we will respond and show respect too. And gentlemen, they treated us with respect, but not just with respect, with friendship and even affection too. This is very gratifying.

Thank you very much.

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